



St Peter's Church, Phibsborough

Parish Newsletter

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

21th July 2019

Worried and distracted by many things

Fr. Aidan

Summer
Edition

Jesus didn't blame Martha for her hospitality. I suspect he loved her cooking. It was not her cooking, cleaning, or serving that bothered him. Notice the actual problem he describes: "Martha, Martha, you are *worried and distracted* by many things."

The root meaning of the word "worry" is "strangle" or "seize by the throat and tear." The root meaning of the word "distraction" is "a dragging apart of something that should be whole."

Jesus found Martha in just such a state of fragmentation — a condition in which she could not enjoy his company, find inspiration in her work, receive anything he wished to offer her, or show him genuine love. All she could do was question *his* love ("Lord, do you not care?"), fixate on herself ("My sister has left *me* to do all the work by *myself*") and invite Jesus to complain too ("Tell her then to *help me*.")

Sound familiar? Do you find life so fragmented, so strangled, that you struggle to give and receive love? Are you quick to

seethe or get angry. Does your worry keeping you from being fully present, engaged, and alive? Are all the things you have to do a way to avoid intimacy with God or with others?

My answer to these is often yes. If yours is yes, too, then I wonder if we can hear Jesus's words to Martha, not as a criticism, but as an invitation. Not as a rebuke, but as a soothing balm. Jesus knows that we ache to be whole. He knows we can place difficult and devastating expectations on ourselves and that our resentments, like Martha's, are often borne of envy.

Martha longed to sit where Mary sat. She longed to take delight in Jesus's words. She longed to surrender her heavy burden and allow Jesus to tend to her. Maybe we long for these good things, too.

Here's the good news: There is need of only one thing, and if we choose it, no one will ever have the power to take it away from us. So let's choose it. Jesus our gracious host is waiting.

Mass Times

| Sunday | Weekdays | Holy Days | Confessions | African Chaplaincy |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Vigil (Sat) | Monday | 10.30am | Saturday | 1st Sunday |
| 6.30pm | 10.30am | 6.30pm | 11.00am | 2.15pm |
| Morning | 7.00pm | | or | |
| 8.00am | | | Parish Office | Syro Malabar Rite |
| 10.00am | Tues - Sat | | by arrangement | 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday |
| 11.30am | 10.30am | | | 4.00pm |



Parish Team

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Parish Office

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9.30am - 12.30pm

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◆Parish Office

Evening Opening Suspended

Month of July

This means evening use of the Sacristy, Conference Rooms and Club will be suspended. We look forward to seeing you all again in August.

Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

This week there will be a blessing and conferring of Medals at the regular Monday Novena, 7.30 to 8pm

◆Weekly Collections - 14 July

Recent collections amounted to:

Church = €1,287.93

Share = € 466.79

Thank you for your continued support.



Vincentian

Knock Pilgrimage

Saturday, 14 September 2019

Coach leaves

St Peter's Church at 7.45am

sharp and returns to

St Peter's at approx. 10.00pm

Cost: €50 per person

(includes coach, morning coffee & evening meal)

Eritrean Challenge

Irish Vincentian, Stephen Monaghan CM, has brought to our attention an unfolding situation in **Eritrea**, a country long associated with Vincentian missionaries..

Independent from Ethiopia since 1993, Eritrea was the mission focus of Vincentian saint, Justin deJacobus. The country is experiencing a serious Church State crisis, that effects the most vulnerable. After criticisms of the regime from the Catholic Bishops, the government has responded by closing all Catholic Medical Facilities.

The **Daughters of Charity** run a clinic St. George's, Waliku district of Keren, Eritrea's second largest city.. Specific information is scarce, but all Catholic run centres in the city are reported closed.

Please include the Sister's and all Catholics of Eritrea in your prayers, that this situation will quickly resolve itself and regular service to the poorest and most vulnerable can be restored.

Check Youtube Daughters of Charity, Eritrea .for video of this work

MOVIE

MATINEE

WITH A MEANING



GOFUNDME

THE MESSIAH



Venue: House: 1

(behind ' Precious Blood Church).

Date: Tuesday July 23rd

Time: 2.30pm

Kevin is hosting an afternoon Movie Matinee. The movie will have an element of a deeper meaning for people of Faith and we will have a chat afterward about its meaning for today.

Cause: Producing the Messiah

Date: Sunday, 24 Nov. 2019

Raised so far: €6,055

Find us on gofundme under Phibsborough and help us cover the costs of bringing Handel's Messiah to St. Peter's Church-Phibsborough this Christmas.